

GRANT APPLICATION



Energy-Efficient Retrofits of Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

Energy Division

State Energy Program

Issue Date: July 18, 2017

Application Due Date: August 29, 2017

**ENERGY-EFFICIENT RETROFITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
STATE ENERGY PROGRAM**

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include incorporated units of local government (municipalities and counties) in Alabama and non-profit organizations in Alabama. Below is a definition of a non-profit organization for the purposes of this Grant Application.

A **non-profit organization** is an organization that uses its surplus revenues to further achieve its purpose or mission, rather than distributing its surplus income to the organization's directors (or equivalents) as profit or dividends. Applicants must have the status of a **501(c) organization** and be tax-exempt in order to apply.

Applications

Each application submitted must contain one (1) original and two (2) copies.

Submission Information

All applications must be received no later than **5:00 p.m., August 29, 2017** at:

By Mail:

ADECA - Energy Division
P.O. Box 5690
Montgomery, AL 36103-5690

By Courier:

ADECA - Energy Division
Mailroom 404
401 Adams Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36104

Late and Incomplete Applications

Applications submitted after the due date will not be considered. The Energy Division reserves the right to reject any incomplete applications without review.

Questions

Questions pertaining to this Grant Application may be submitted by email or fax to Elizabeth Grimes, SEP Program Manager, at elizabeth.grimes@adeca.alabama.gov or (334) 242-0552.

Please keep a complete copy of your application (including a copy of all completed and signed attachments) for your records.

This 'Grant Application' does not indicate acceptance or approval of any application in response to this request. No grant or contract payment can be made until a grant agreement has been fully executed. Therefore, no work shall begin on projects selected for funding until an executed grant agreement has been received. All grant awards are contingent upon state receipt of federal funds awarded.

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PART I – FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Summary

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) - Energy Division manages the State Energy Program (SEP) for Alabama by the authority of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Each year the Energy Division develops and implements an energy efficiency plan that will reduce projected energy consumption in Alabama.

Projects under this Grant Application will be funded, in whole or in part, with funds appropriated by the SEP. The SEP is a formula grant used to promote the conservation of energy, to reduce the rate of growth of energy demand, and to reduce dependence on imported oil through the development and implementation of a comprehensive State Energy Program and the provision of Federal financial and technical assistance to States in support of such program. Accordingly, special consideration will be given to projects that promote and enhance the objectives of the SEP.

The Energy Division is soliciting applications from local governments and non-profit organizations in Alabama for the purchase and installation of energy-efficient improvements. Energy efficiency improvements eligible for funding are listed in Addendum A: Local Government and Non-Profit Organization Energy Improvement Application.

Please contact the Energy Division with questions regarding eligibility of any measures not specifically listed in Addendum A. Energy-efficient windows and doors are not eligible.

The optimal payback period for each retrofit should be 10 years or less with the exception of photovoltaic projects.

B. State Energy Program Project Goals

The mission of the State Energy Program is to provide leadership to maximize the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy through communications and outreach activities, technology deployment, and accessing new partnerships and resources.

The goals established for the SEP are:

1. Increase energy efficiency to reduce energy costs and consumption for consumers, businesses, and government.
2. Reduce reliance on imported energy.
3. Improve the reliability of electricity and fuel supply and the delivery of energy services.
4. Reduce the impacts of energy production and use on the environment.

Applications submitted in response to this solicitation should, to the maximum extent feasible, incorporate the goals and objectives of the SEP. Each goal or objective area should be addressed and briefly discussed as it relates to proposed activities.

Applications should be developed with thoughtful consideration being given to the applicable quarterly and annual reporting requirements contained in Part V.

PART II – AWARD INFORMATION

A. Estimated Funding

Approximately \$40,000 is available for the Energy-Efficient Retrofits of Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations Program. The maximum award amount is **\$10,000 per applicant**.

B. Period of Performance

The Energy Division anticipates awarding grants to begin October 1, 2017 and to terminate no later than September 30, 2018, for an amount not to exceed the amount requested by the Offeror or that which is negotiated between the selected Offeror and the Energy Division.

C. Method of Payment

Subrecipients will be paid on an advance payment basis provided that they maintain a cash management plan, demonstrate the willingness and ability to maintain both written procedures to minimize the transfer of funds and their disbursement, and financial management systems that meet the standards for fund control and accountability in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200.302 and 2 CFR Part 200.305.

All Subrecipients must register in the State of Alabama Accounting and Resource System (STAARS) Vendor Self Service (VSS) portal in order to receive payment. Subrecipients can elect to be paid via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) or paper check when registering.

D. Prohibited Expenditures

State Energy Program Regulation 10 CFR Part 420 does not allow expenditures or matching funds for the following:

- For construction, such as construction of mass transit systems and exclusive bus lanes, or for construction or repair of buildings or structures;
- To purchase land, a building or structure or any interest therein;
- To subsidize fares for public transportation;
- To subsidize utility rate demonstrations or state tax credits for energy conservation or renewable energy measures; or
- To conduct or purchase equipment to conduct research, development or demonstration of energy efficiency or renewable energy techniques and technologies not commercially available.

E. Matching Funds

A 25% match is required for grants made with SEP funds and may be provided through cash and/or in-kind services.

PART III – APPLICATION CONTENTS

Each application submitted must contain one (1) original and two (2) copies of the following documents:

A. Letter of Transmittal and Commitment

The letter of transmittal must include the following:

1. A brief statement of the work to be performed
2. A statement assuring that the person signing the letter is authorized to bind the offer presented in the letter and accompanying application
3. A statement committing the applicant to provide a 25% match
4. The proposed dollar amount to be provided as match
5. The match amount as a percentage of award amount
6. The total cost of the project (award amount + match amount)
7. The proposed match type (cash or services)
8. The applicant's Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number

B. Addendum A – *Local Government and Non-Profit Organization Energy Improvement Worksheet*

Each applicant must submit a Local Government and Non-Profit Organizations Energy Improvement Worksheet (Addendum A). An Addendum A must be submitted for each building requesting retrofits.

Notes:

- All fields on each line item **must be completed** to be considered.
- The optimal payback period for each retrofit should be 10 years or less with the exception of photovoltaic projects.

C. Attachments

These attachments can be found on our website at
<http://www.adeca.alabama.gov/about/Pages/Funding-Opportunities.aspx>

Attachment A - *Project Budget*

The Project Budget should outline the expenditures for the project. Please reference Attachment "B" for a description of budget categories. Application preparation costs are not reimbursable.

Attachment B - *Budget Narrative*

The Budget Narrative should include a detailed explanation of the expenditures outlined in your Project Budget.

Attachment C - *Assurance of Compliance – Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs*

A declaration that the applicant agrees to assure that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity in which the applicant receives Federal assistance from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Attachment D - *Certifications*

This form certifies matters regarding lobbying, debarment, suspension, and other responsibility matters including a drug-free workplace.

Attachment E – *Grant Applicant Information*

The applicant must submit a Grant Applicant Information Form to properly indicate organization and contact information of the individuals involved in the project. Information should be for the eligible party receiving the award, not for a third party assisting with the application process.

Attachment F – *Certificate of Compliance with the Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act –~~AND~~– E-Verify MOU*

Not applicable to public K-12 school systems and local governments

Attachment G - *State of Alabama – Disclosure Statement*

Not applicable to public K-12 school systems and local governments

Attachment H - *Standard Form - LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities*

If applicable, complete Standard Form – LLL (SF-LLL). Applicability: If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the grant/cooperative agreement, you must complete and submit SF-LLL "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying."

Attachment I – *Preliminary Risk Assessment*

This form assesses the preliminary risk of each applicant. If your project is selected for potential funding, a full assessment will be required prior to a grant agreement being issued.

PART IV – APPLICATION EVALUATION

Applications shall be evaluated on the following criteria. Poor performance implementing prior Energy Division grants may disqualify potential applicants from this solicitation.

SEP Grant Application Review Sheet

Category: **Energy-Efficient Retrofits of Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations**

Reviewer:

Applicant:

Date:

Requested Budget: \$

I. <u>Technical Criteria</u> (50 possible points)	Score	Possible
Extent of benefits relating to SEP goals, how well the application combines the goals and objectives, and proposes the realistic accomplishment and key components. For example, to what extent does the project increase energy efficiency and reduce energy costs? <i>Energy savings, cost savings, and payback included and reasonable. Optimal payback period of building retrofits is 10 years or less on "Addendum A."</i>		<u>25</u>
Qualifications and experience of applicant in proposed project and experience conducting similar programs or previous performance handling prior grants with the Energy Division.		<u>10</u>
All required documents, including transmittal letter, "Addendum A," and attachments are completed fully and submitted in the application. <i>Energy Division has to the right to reject incomplete applications without review.</i>		<u>15</u>
II. <u>Cost Criteria</u> (20 possible points)		
Budget listed in Attachments A and B for proposed project is appropriate and reasonable, showing required match		<u>10</u>
Cost breakdown for each deliverable in "Addendum A" is appropriate and reasonable		<u>5</u>
Degree of leveraging for proposed project above the 25% required		<u>5</u>
III. <u>Project Specific</u> (30 possible points)		
Project Plan in "Addendum A" provides that project will be completed in an expeditious manner. Detailed description of deliverables and time lines for task completion during grant period (October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018)		<u>10</u>
Details of each eligible retrofit to be accomplished are supplied and are quantifiable, clearly defined, and measurable		<u>10</u>
Energy savings and payback calculations are given for each retrofit and are quantifiable		<u>10</u>
Total Points:		<u>100</u>

NOTES:

PART V – AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION FOR SELECTED APPLICANTS

A. Invoices

In addition to standard management and financial reporting requirements, grant recipients will be required to submit applicable supporting documentation including but not limited to contractor invoices and proof of payment. The Energy Division will provide additional information on invoice requirements for the selected application.

B. Quarterly Progress Reports

The Energy Division will provide additional information on reporting requirements for selected applications. In addition to standard management and financial reporting requirements, grant recipients will be required to submit data collected on the proposed project in quarterly program status reports including but not limited to the following information:

Building Retrofits

- Number of buildings retrofitted, by sector
- Square footage of buildings retrofitted, by sector

Government, School, Institutional Procurement

- Number of units purchased, by type (e.g. vehicles, office equipment, HVAC equipment, streetlights, outdoor lighting, exit signs)

Jobs

- Hours worked through SEP Funds

C. Final Report

The following information will be required in a final report as appropriate and applicable to the proposed project:

Energy Cost Savings

- Dollars Saved

Energy Savings

- Annual reduction in natural gas consumption (mmcf)
- Annual reduction in electricity consumption (MWh)
- Annual reduction in electricity demand (MW)
- Annual reduction in fuel oil consumption (gallons)
- Annual reduction in propane consumption (gallons)
- Annual reduction in gasoline and diesel fuel consumption (gallons)

Emissions Reductions

- Amount of green house gases reduced (CO2 equivalents)
- Amount of criteria air pollutants reduced (tons)

D. Other Requirements

Selected applications must submit all documentation required by the following to the Energy Division **prior to installation**.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

All projects receiving financial assistance from DOE will be reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 – 42 U.S.C. Section 4321 et seq. Most projects under this solicitation will be categorically excluded from environmental assessment. The Energy Division will notify you in the event your project will require a full environmental assessment. Applications should include a discussion of anticipated environmental impacts as described online at https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/NEPA_Act.aspx.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA)

All projects receiving financial assistance under this solicitation must obtain written approval from the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC). Please visit the Alabama Historical Commission website at the following link: <http://preserveala.org/106program.aspx> for more information on NHPA Section 106 requirements. If a facility is over 50 years of age and you have any questions regarding the possible exemption of planned retrofits, please contact the ADECA Energy Division.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, DIVISION OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

The Department of Finance, Division of Construction Management (formerly the Alabama Building Commission) promulgates and enforces a code of minimum building standards for state building and construction, school houses, hotels, and motion picture theaters. Projects receiving financial assistance under this solicitation are responsible for obtaining all necessary approvals required. Applicants should consider any additional costs associated with these approvals when submitting their application.

ENERGY STAR PORTFOLIO MANAGER

Implement the agency-wide use of ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager. Portfolio Manager is an interactive energy management tool that allows you to track and assess energy and water consumption across your entire portfolio of buildings in a secure online environment. Additional information regarding ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager is available at http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=evaluate_performance.bus_portfoliomanager.

SAM.GOV REGISTRATION

All grant award recipients are required to maintain an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov> for the duration of the award.

OTHER APPLICABLE PROGRAM REGULATIONS

All awarded grants are subject to the applicable program regulations, including 10 CFR Part 420 – State Energy Program and the Financial Assistance Regulations, 2 CFR part 200 as amended by 2 CFR part 910.

E. Procurement

All projects receiving financial assistance must follow proper procedures as stated in 2 CFR Parts 200 and 910, applicable subparts or appendices, and the Alabama Competitive Bid and Public Works Laws. In addition, all contractors must utilize best commercial practices in obtaining subcontractors.

PART VI – OTHER INFORMATION

Right to Reject

The Energy Division reserves the right to reject any and all applications submitted and to request additional information from all applicants. The Energy Division reserves the right to award a grant on an "all or none" basis or to award a separate grant or no grant for each work element. Any grant award will be made to the organization which, in the opinion of the Energy Division, is determined to be the best qualified and whose application best meets the objectives of the Energy Division. The Energy Division reserves the right to negotiate with any applicant(s). The Energy Division reserves the right to reallocate funding for subject areas as deemed necessary. All grant awards are subject to state receipt of federal funds awarded.

PART VII – CHECKLIST & FINAL NOTES

CHECKLIST:

Item	Requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Letter of Transmittal and Commitment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Brief statement of the work to be performed <input type="checkbox"/> Authorization statement <input type="checkbox"/> 25 percent match commitment statement <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed dollar amount to be provided as match <input type="checkbox"/> Match amount as a percentage of award amount <input type="checkbox"/> The total cost of the project (award amount + match amount) <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed match type (cash or services) <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant's DUNS number 	Must contain required statements
<input type="checkbox"/> Addendum A – Local Government and Non-Profit Organization Energy Improvement Worksheet	Must contain required information
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment A – Project Budget	Categorize award funds and matching funds
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment B – Budget Narrative	Detail costs shown in Attachment A
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment C – Assurance of Compliance	Sign and date
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment D – Certifications	Sign and date
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment E – Grant Applicant Information	Applicant's information
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment F – Beason-Hammon Certificate of Compliance	Not applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment F – E-Verify Memorandum of Understanding	Not applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment G – State of Alabama Disclosure Statement	Not applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment H – Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	Sign and date (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment I – Preliminary Risk Assessment	Must contain required information

FINAL NOTES:

- ✓ Your submitted application must consist of one (1) original and two (2) copies of all documents.
- ✓ All applications must be received no later than **5:00 p.m., August 29, 2017.**
- ✓ All information should be for the eligible party requesting to receive the award, not for a third party assisting with the application process.